United Nations S/2014/612

Security Council

Distr.: General
22 August 2014

Original: English

Letter dated 22 August 2014 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to enclose herewith a statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine dated 22 August 2014 regarding the illegal crossing of the State border of Ukraine by the Russian convoy (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Oleksandr **Pavlichenko**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

14-59675 (E) 250814

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 22 August 2014 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Statement dated 22 August 2014 of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine in connection with the illegal crossing of the State border of Ukraine by the Russian convoy

On 22 August, Russia began smuggling humanitarian aid to Ukraine, ignoring established international rules, procedures and agreements, without the consent and escort of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Although the border and customs services of Ukraine had already started clearance of the Russian convoy, in the morning, Ukrainian officials were blocked by the Russian forces and detached from the inspection of the rest of the trucks in the column, despite previous agreements and the fact that they had been invited into the territory of Russia. We are concerned about the safety of our employees. Moreover, deep concern is raised because, so far, neither the Ukrainian side nor ICRC are aware of the content of the cargo.

The fact that Russian trucks entered the territory of Ukraine without proper border and customs procedures and that the cargo was not donated to the representatives of ICRC indicates the deliberate and aggressive nature of Russia's actions.

As we have previously emphasized, the Russian side is fully responsible for the safety of the cargo. It is important to note that Ukraine has already taken all necessary measures to ensure the security of the cargo.

In order to prevent any provocations, we have issued all necessary instructions for the safe passing of the convoy. Despite all attempts by the Ukrainian side, contact between the General Staff of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and that of Russia has not been established, which is critical to ensure security along the route. We point out that terrorists carry out mortar attacks along the possible route of the cargo.

Furthermore, we are not aware of the content of the agreements of the Russian side with Luhansk insurgents and we do not exclude the possibility of any planned provocation.

We consider this act to be another flagrant violation of the fundamental principles of international law, including the inviolability of borders, non-interference in the internal affairs of another State and the bona fide fulfilment of international obligations by the Russian Federation.